

THE SCORCHED[®]

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THE SCORCHED®



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THE SCORCHED®



McFARLANE



PENCILLER
TITLE *The Scorched*

INKER
ISSUE #

MONTH

EDITOR
TITLE CODE

COVER

THE SCORCHED®



Capullo
21

MINIMUM BLEED 1/4" ALL AROUND

LIVE AREA

CROP
BLEED

PRINTED COVER SIZE: 6 5/8 X 10 3/16

THE SCORCHED



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TODD McFARLANE ADDITIONAL DIALOGUE

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PETER STEIGERWALD (cover)

FCO PLASCENCIA (cover)

DAVE MCCAIG (cover)

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ANDWORLD DESIGN

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SPAWN CREATED BY
TODD McFARLANE

*Inked by Todd McFarlane

**Inked by Jonathan Glapion

RUSSIA, EXACT LOCATION
NOT CONFIRMED.

NOT EVERY MISSION
GOES AS PLANNED.
IT'S AGGRAVATING AND
MADDENING, THOUGH,
WHEN IT'S THE FIRST ONE.

SPAWN DIDN'T GIVE ANY
OF THEM CONSENT TO DO
THIS, DIDN'T MATTER, THEY
BANDED THEMSELVES
TOGETHER REGARDLESS.

AND RIGHT NOW, THEIR GOALS
ARE TWO-FOLD. FIRST,
EXTRACT PLAGUE SPAWN.

THE SECOND, IS TO MAKE
SURE THESE TWO GIRLS
IN FRONT OF JESSICA
PRIEST DON'T DIE.

GET 'EM
ON THEIR FEET,
JESSICA.







SO...HOW THE HELL DID THREE SPAWNS AND A REDEEMER END UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS? GOOD QUESTION.

IT ALL STARTED A WEEK EARLIER. NEAR THE GATE OF WOLVES, CHECHNYA.

SPAWN WANTED THIS TO BE A QUIET, COVERT MISSION.

INSTEAD, SHE-SPAWN INVITED SOME BIG HITTERS TO COME ALONG TO...



THE RUSSIAN HQ FOR PSALMS 137. MILITARY DIVISION.

WE'VE RECEIVED CONFIRMATION ON THE FERAL SPAWN. EVERYTHING THAT KINCAID AND THE EXODUS FOUNDATION SAID WOULD HAPPEN HAS COME TRUE! OUR **NEW BIBLE** WILL SOON BE WRITTEN AND THEN WE ALL SHALL...



WHAT HE **MEANT** TO SAY WAS...



REDEEMER/
UNKNOWN

AIR
SUPPORT

NONE
OF YOU
WILL BE ALIVE
TO READ A
SINGLE PAGE
OF IT!

OKAY, JESSICA,
YOU PUT THIS
PARTY TOGETHER,
SO START
LEADING IT.

SHE-SPAWN/
JESSICA PRIEST

BLACK OPS

MEDIEVAL/
MARC ROSEN

INFANTRY

WITH
PLEASURE.





HE'S BEEN THROUGH ENOUGH WARS TO UNDERSTAND, YOU DON'T KNOW IF YOU'VE GOT A COHESIVE UNIT UNTIL THEY'RE ON THEIR OWN AND UNDER DURESS.



YOU... THIS IS A SECRET CELL BASE, ISN'T IT?

YES... WE'RE OFF THE GRID.



THEN NO ONE WILL MISS YOU.



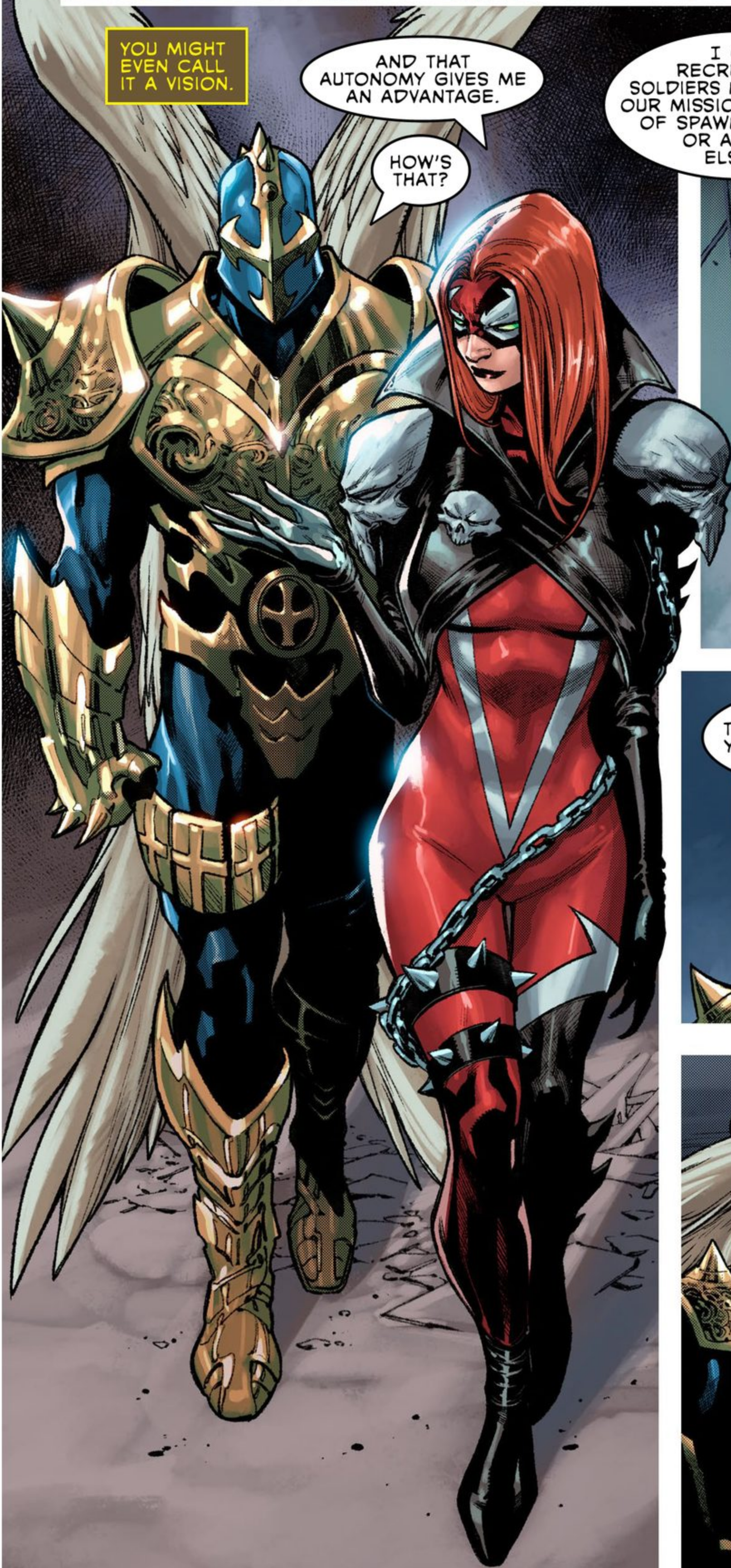
WAS THAT NEEDED? SHE MAY HAVE HAD SOME VALUE.

OR INTEL.



LATER.





MARC PLACES THE ANCIENT RELIC OVER HIS HEAD AS THE SPIRIT OF A GREAT NOBLEMEN COURSES THROUGH HIM.

SACRIFICE!

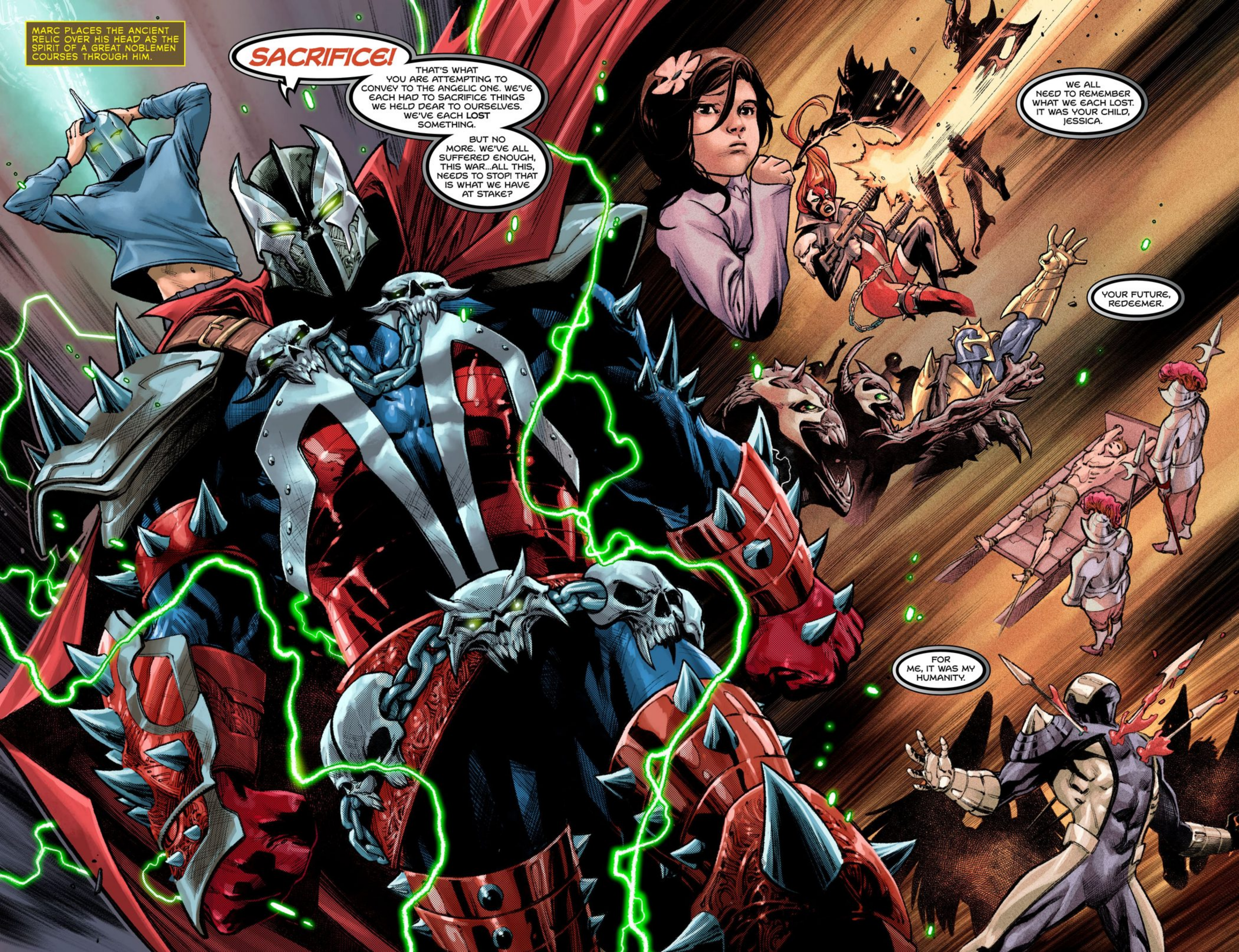
THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE ATTEMPTING TO CONVEY TO THE ANGELIC ONE. WE'VE EACH HAD TO SACRIFICE THINGS WE HELD DEAR TO OURSELVES. WE'VE EACH LOST SOMETHING.

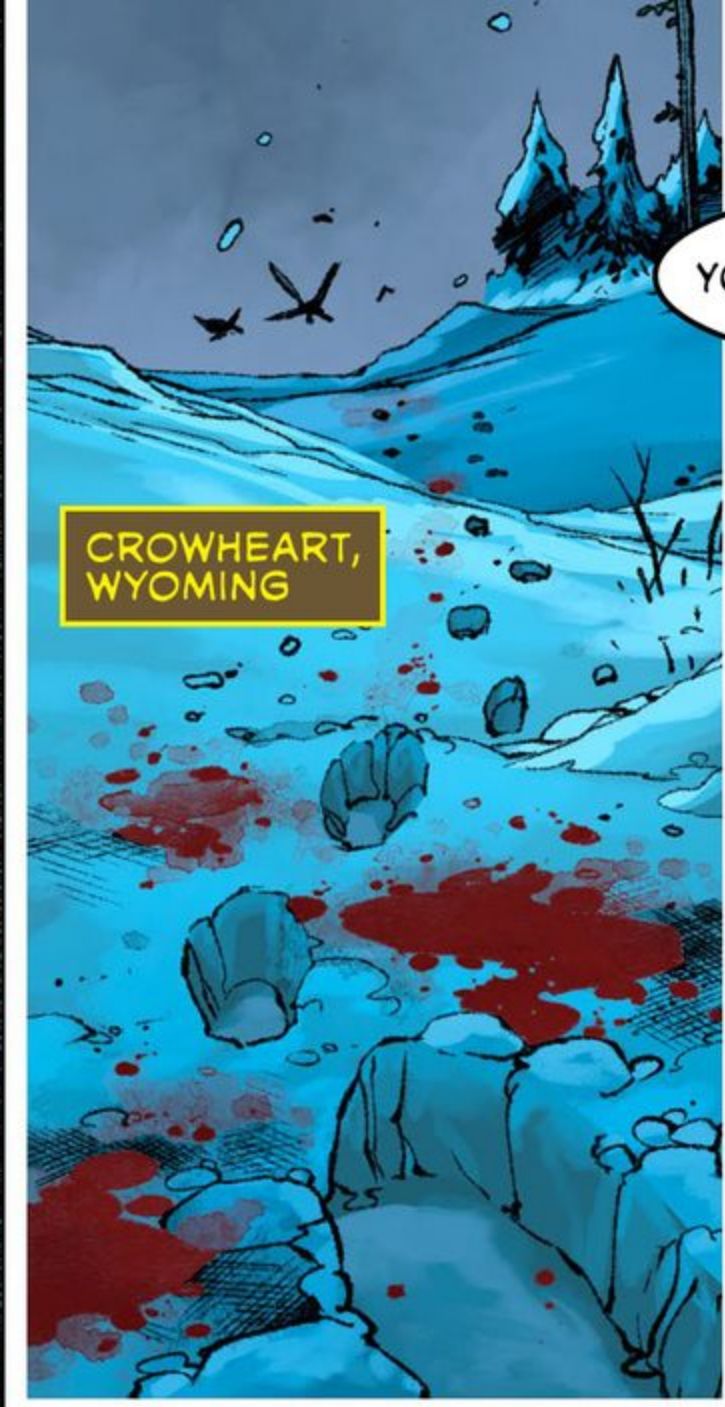
BUT NO MORE. WE'VE ALL SUFFERED ENOUGH, THIS WAR...ALL THIS, NEEDS TO STOP! THAT IS WHAT WE HAVE AT STAKE?

WE ALL NEED TO REMEMBER WHAT WE EACH LOST. IT WAS YOUR CHILD, JESSICA.

YOUR FUTURE, REDEEMER.

FOR ME, IT WAS MY HUMANITY.





CROWHEART,
WYOMING

COWARD!
YOU CAN'T RUN FROM
US GUNSLINGER!

SAD ALL
THESE WOLVES
HAD TO DIE.



YOU WANT
ANY OF YOUR WOLVES
ALIVE, YOU'LL SHOW
YOURSELF!

THEY'RE CALLED
LOCUST RANGERS.

AND THEY'VE BEEN
TRACKING GUNSLINGER
FOR DAYS, INFLECTING
INJURIES TO HIM WITH
EACH ENCOUNTER.

SOMETIMES THE RANGERS SHIFTED
THEIR FORMS, OTHER TIMES THEY JUST
USED THEIR SKILLS, ULTIMATELY, THEY
WERE ABLE TO DRIVE HIM TO THIS
SECLUDED CHURCH FOR WHAT THEY
BELIEVED WOULD BE HIS BURIAL.



BECAUSE OF THAT
LOW NUMBER, A
CRUEL SMILE CROSSES
GUNSLINGER'S FACE.



KRA-SSH

THAT THE RANGERS HUNTED
AND TRACKED HIM SO LONG,
CONFIRMS HE WAS ON THE
RIGHT PATH IN HIS ODYSSEY
TO EXECUTE THOSE THAT
RUINED HIS LIFE.

A LIFE FORGED OVER
A HUNDRED AND
SIXTY YEARS AGO.





YOU BOYS
AIN'T SMART ENOUGH
TO BE DOING THIS ON YOUR
OWN. AND COGLIOSTRO'S
TOO SMART TO HAVE
SENT YOU.



THAT
LEAVES ONE
QUESTION...
**WHO
SENT
YOU?**



INSTEAD OF
ANSWERS,
GUNSLINGER'S
FLESH IS TORN.

WIRE BARBED
WITH RAZOR EDGES
CUT INTO HIS ALREADY
SCARRED NECK.

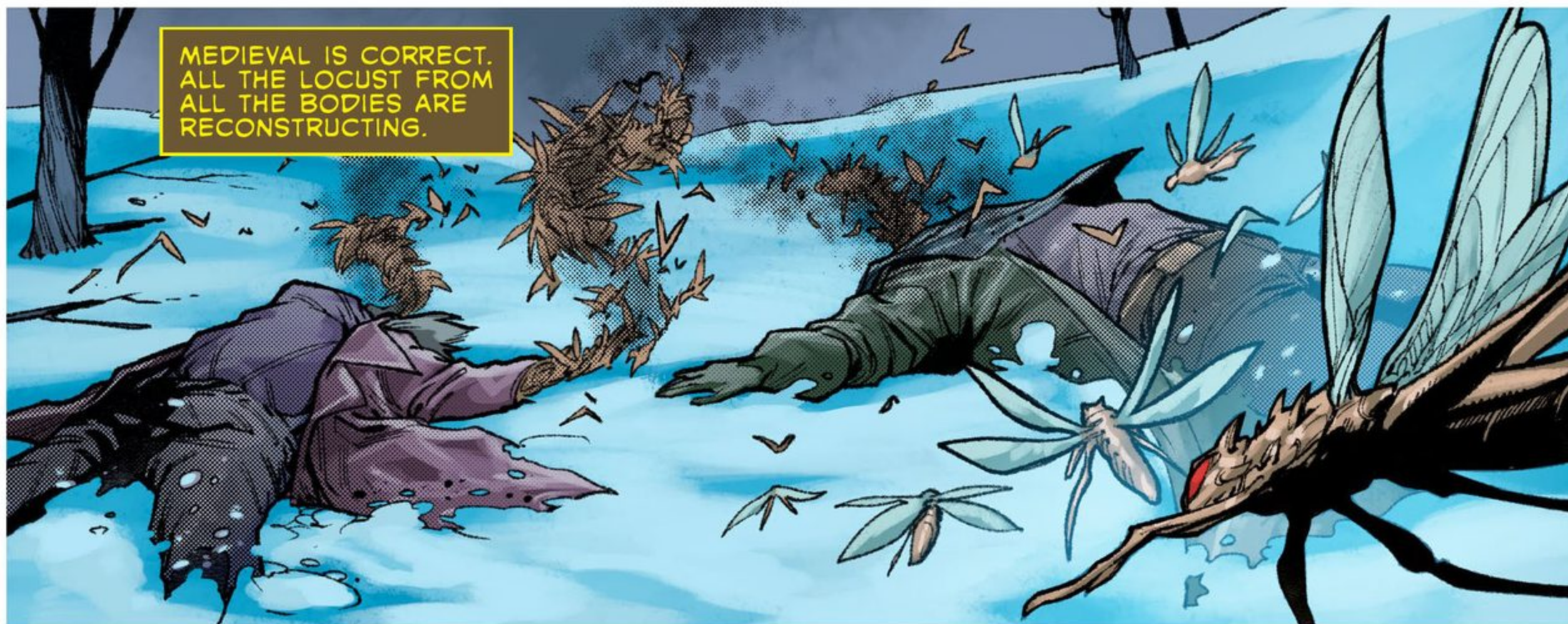


THIS IS A
WAR, BOY! AND YOUR
MASTER, SPAWN, IS WASTING
TIME HUNTING AN AMATEUR
CULT, INSTEAD OF PAYING
ATTENTION TO BIGGER
THREATS?*

IT'S
LAUGHABLE!

*SEE KING SPAWN
--TODD







SIN
WILL CONSUME
YOU. WILL BURN
YOU IN ITS
FLAME.



HIS
TORSO!



IT'S
EXPOSED---
HIT HIM!

TEAMS, MADE OF
ORDINARY PEOPLE,
CAN TAKE TIME TO
COME TOGETHER.
TO MELD AS A UNIT.



BUT SOLDIERS ARE A
DIFFERENT BREED. THEY
SEE A THREAT AND THEIR
MUSCLE MEMORY KICKS IN.



ESPECIALLY ONES THAT HAVE
BEEN WARRING THEIR ENTIRE
AFTERLIVES. THESE HERO'S
POWERS WERE HONED LONG AGO.

AND THE RESULT
OF COMBINING THAT
FIRE POWER...IS
STAGGERING!







BY THE WAY...

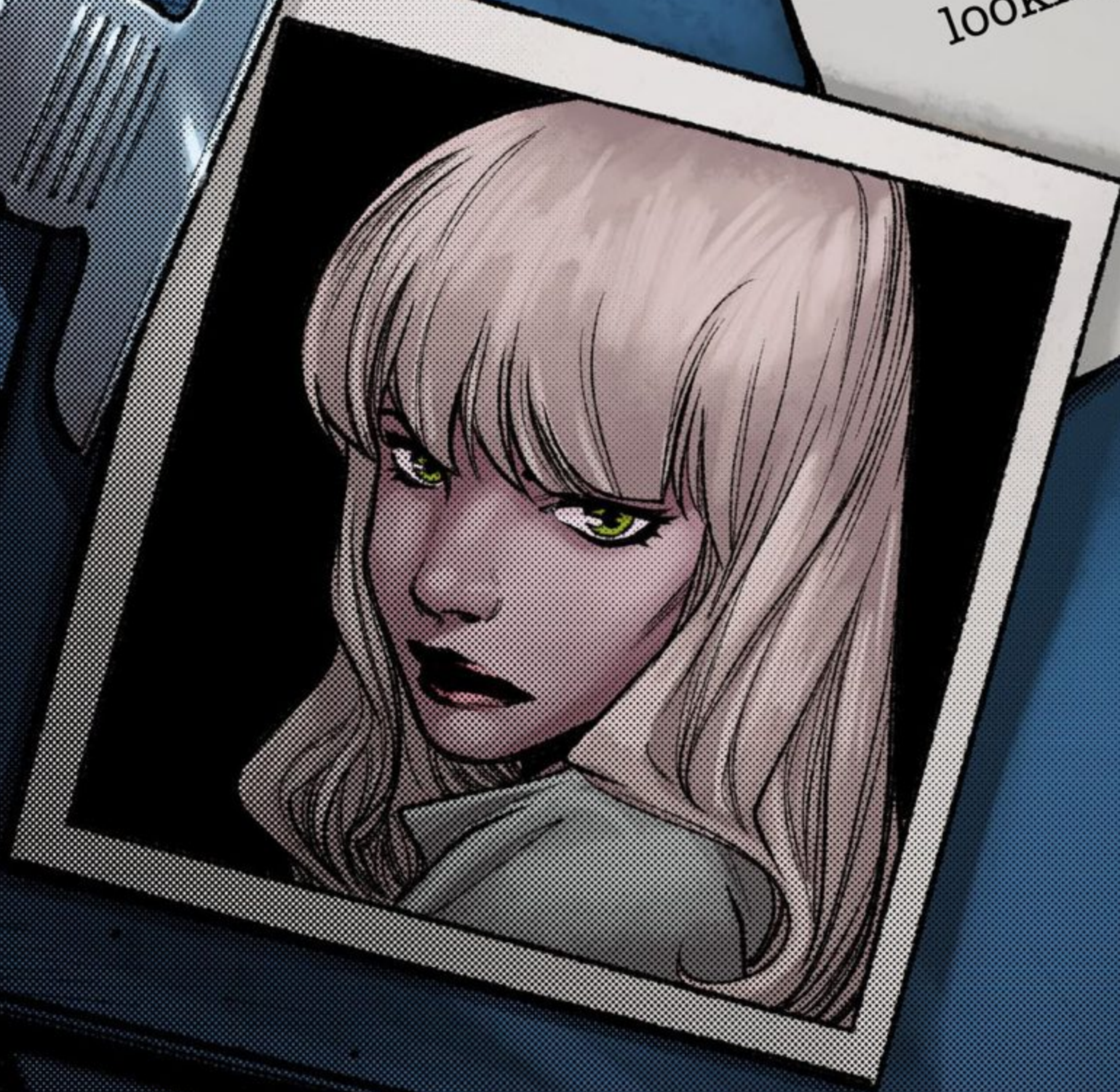
I GAVE US A NAME THEY'LL COME TO FEAR.

THAT'S HOW 'THE SCORCHED' CAME TOGETHER.

RUSSIA, WOULD BE THE BEGINNING OF HOW THEY BEGAN TO FALL APART.



ODESSA TURGNEV. An orphan from the Eastern border. She and others have been staging protests throughout the country. Of late, she and her partner Natasha Gorky have gone into in hiding. The Russian Army is fanning the city looking for their location.



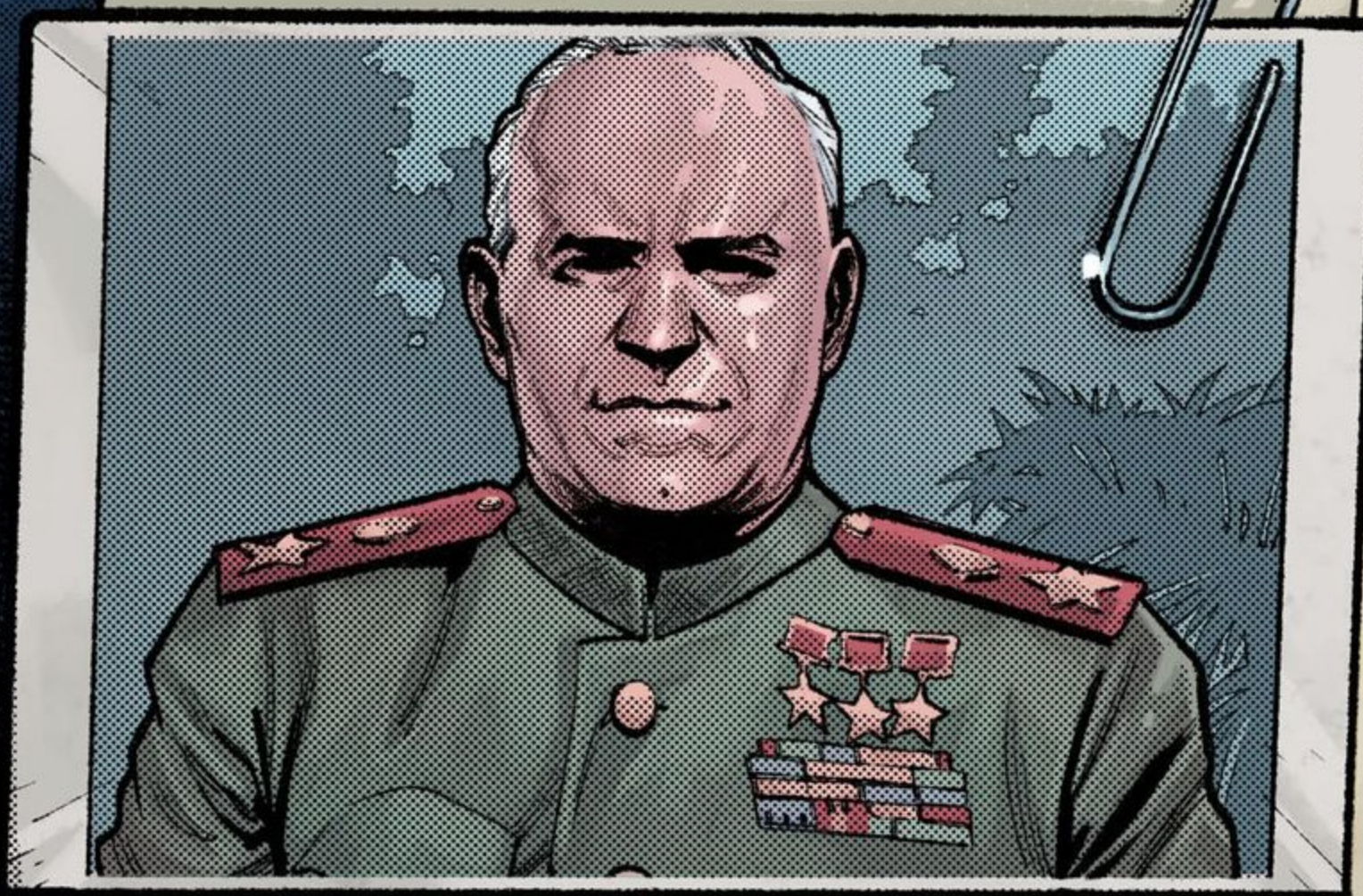
THE QUESTION
IS WHY?



Unverified entity: matches
description of Plague Spawn.
Witnessed through Surveillance.
Powers undefined but significant.
Group affiliation: **UNKNOWN**



Military presence
has grown in the
past two months.
Visual presence
of battalions has
increased and
cartel squads are
patrolling the
streets in many
towns. A show of
force along the
Russian borders
is being built up.



COLONEL KRUSCHEV.
Thirty-two year career
with the Kremlin.
Oversaw massacres
in Afghanistan and Iraq
during covert missions
throughout the Eastern
Block. Proponent of
exploring all
possibilities of
weaponry. Known
for his ruthlessness.

BRILLIANT AND
DANGEROUS. MUST
BE TAKEN OUT.

PENZA, RUSSIA

THE NIGHT
IS QUIET,
SERENE.

IT ALLOWS THESE
RUNAWAYS A RARE
CHANCE TO FIND
A FEW HOURS OF
PEACE. UNTIL...

A DEATH SQUAD
SHATTERS THEIR
DREAMS.

BUT WHY? WHAT'S
SO IMPORTANT
ABOUT THESE
YOUNG MISFITS?

THESE ARE JUST
OUTCASTS TRYING
TO SURVIVE
ANOTHER DAY.



OR ARE
THEY?



WE CAN'T OUTRUN THEM!

WE HAVE TO.



GENERAL KRUSCHEV'S ORDERS ARE TO CAPTURE ALIVE. HE WANTS TO KNOW WHAT THEY SAW OUT IN THE WOODLANDS.



THIS IS HOW IT GOES IN MUCH OF THE WORLD.

PEOPLE CHASED IN THE STREETS.



WITHOUT A SOUL DARING TO COME TO THEIR AID.

BECAUSE THE PEOPLE KNOW ALL TOO WELL...



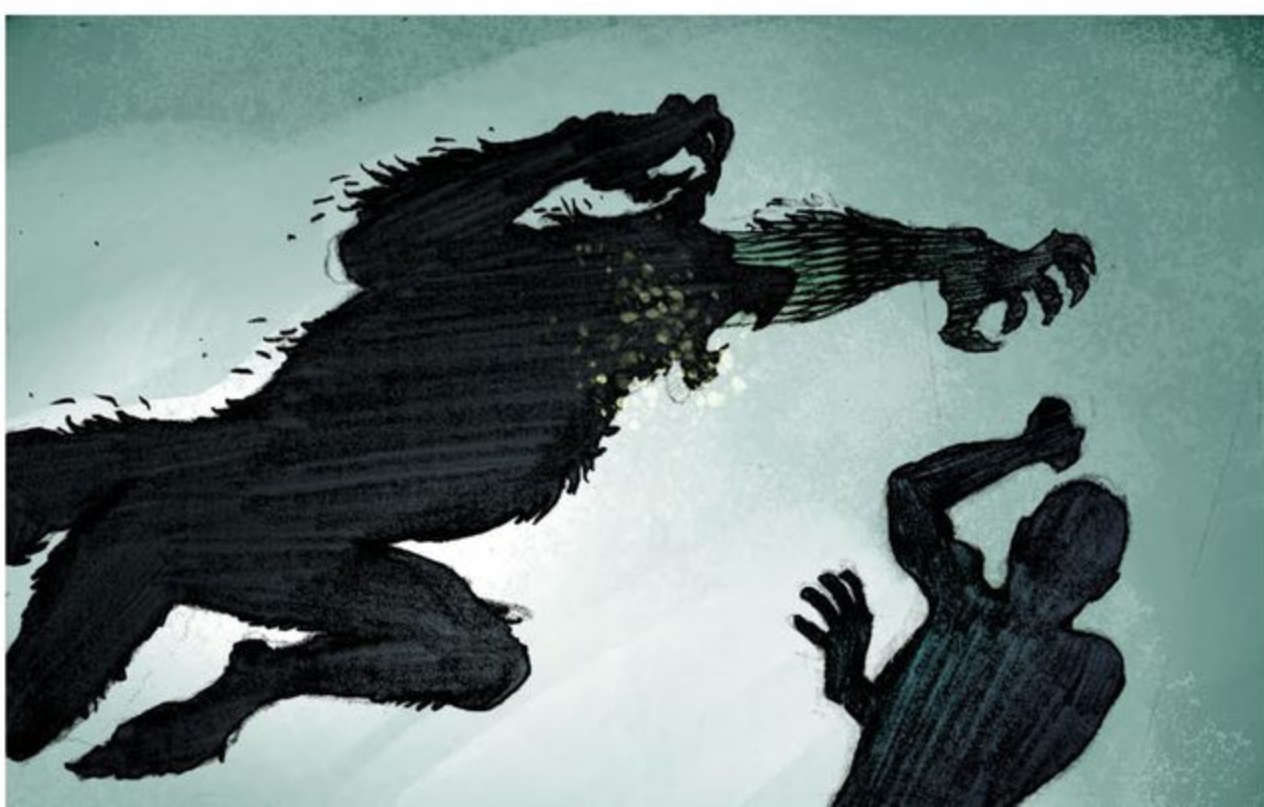
THAT TO STAND UP TO GOVERNMENT FORCES WOULD DESTROY THEIR OWN LIVES. SO, THE CITIZENS HAVE LEARNED TO TURN FROM ANY AND ALL DISTURBANCES. IT'S NOT WORTH BEING A WITNESS.

HELP! SOMEONE!



THERE HAD BEEN RUMORS OF THIS. GENERAL KRUSCHEV AND HIS SPECIAL SQUADRON OF "ELITES".

MEN WHO WERE NO LONGER MEN.



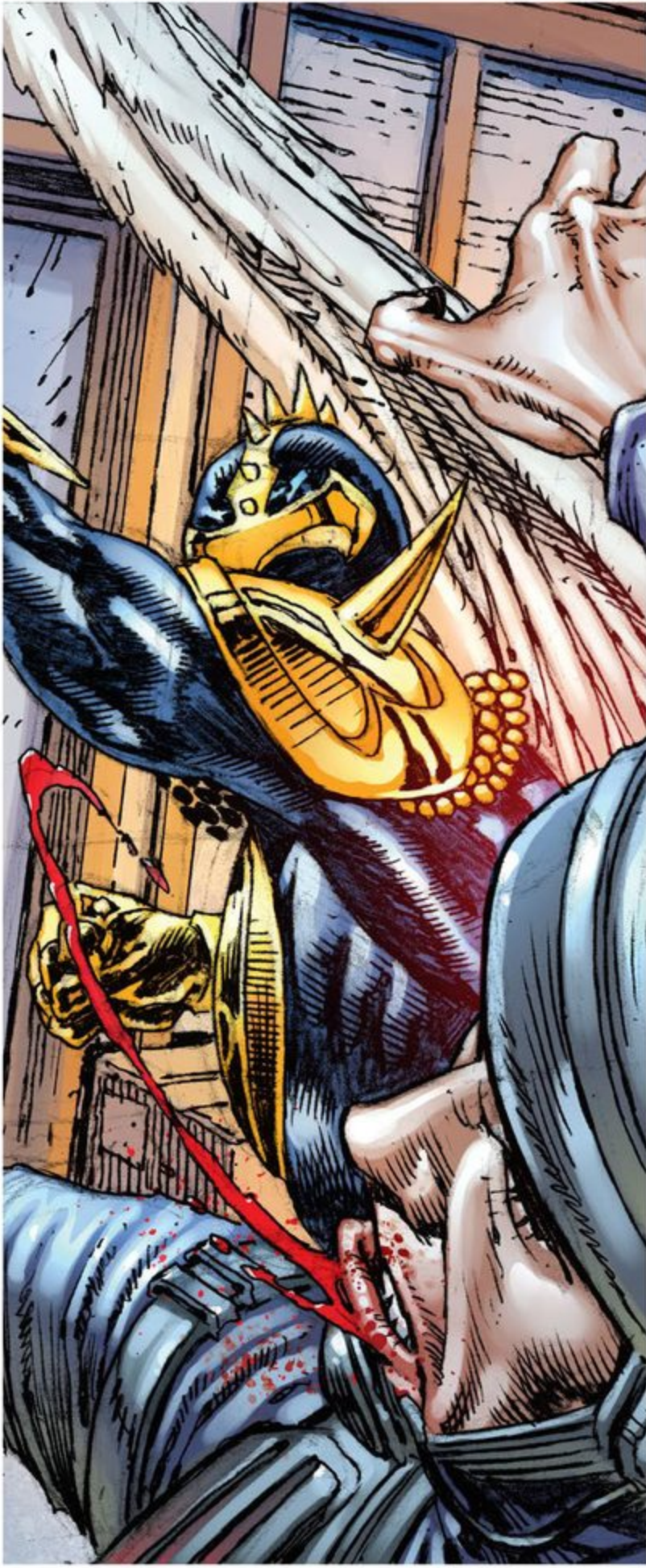


PROTECT
THE GIRLS! THEN
KILL ALL THE
WOLVES!!

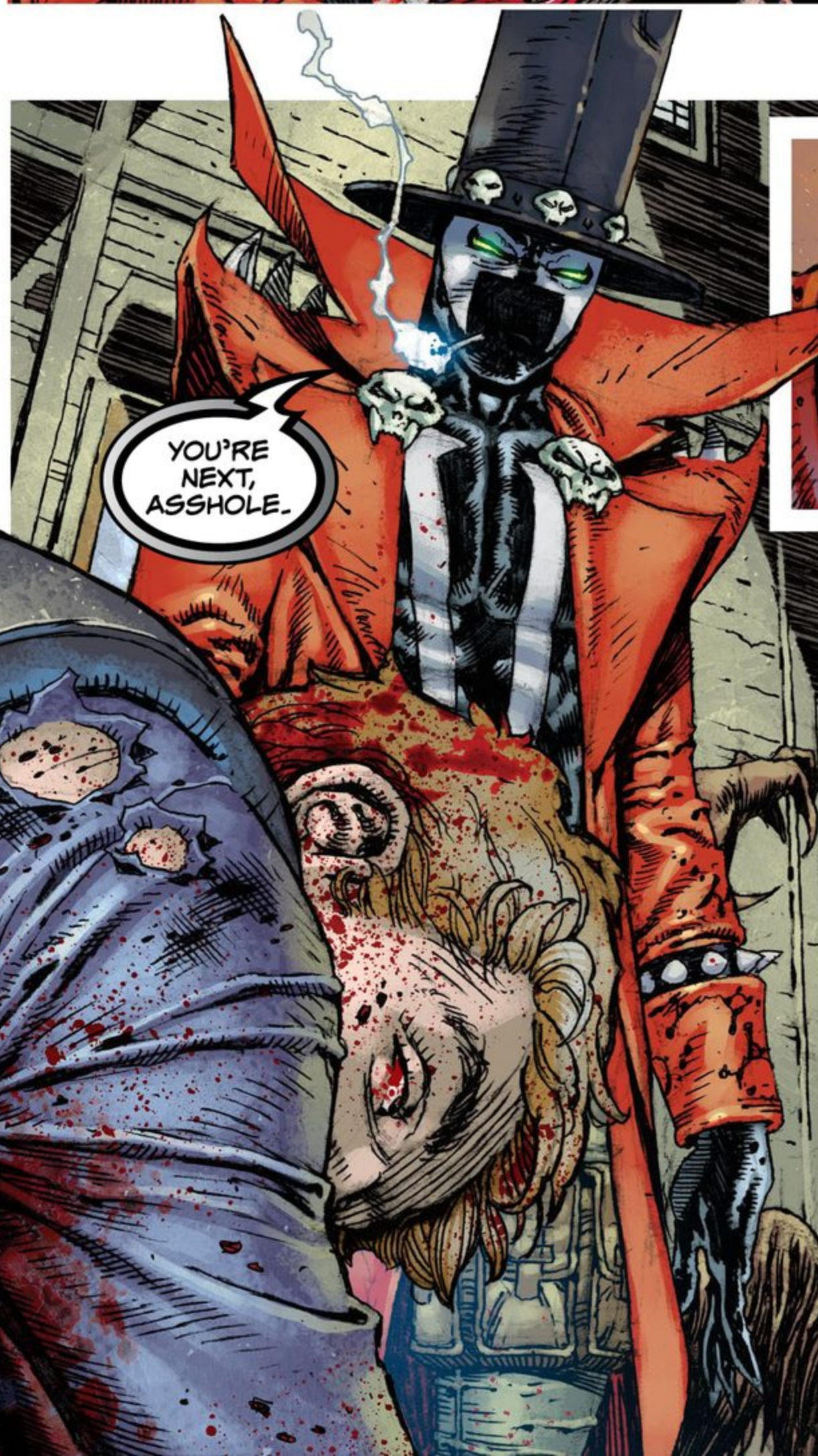
THESE SOLDIERS HAVE
NEVER SEEN ANYTHING
LIKE THIS BEFORE.

THE INTEL THEY'VE BEEN GIVEN IS
HORRIBLY WRONG--HELLSPAWNS
ARE SUPPOSED TO WORK ALONE!

NEVER IN THEIR HISTORY
HAVE ANY OF THEM EVER
BANDED TOGETHER
FOR A COMMON CAUSE!





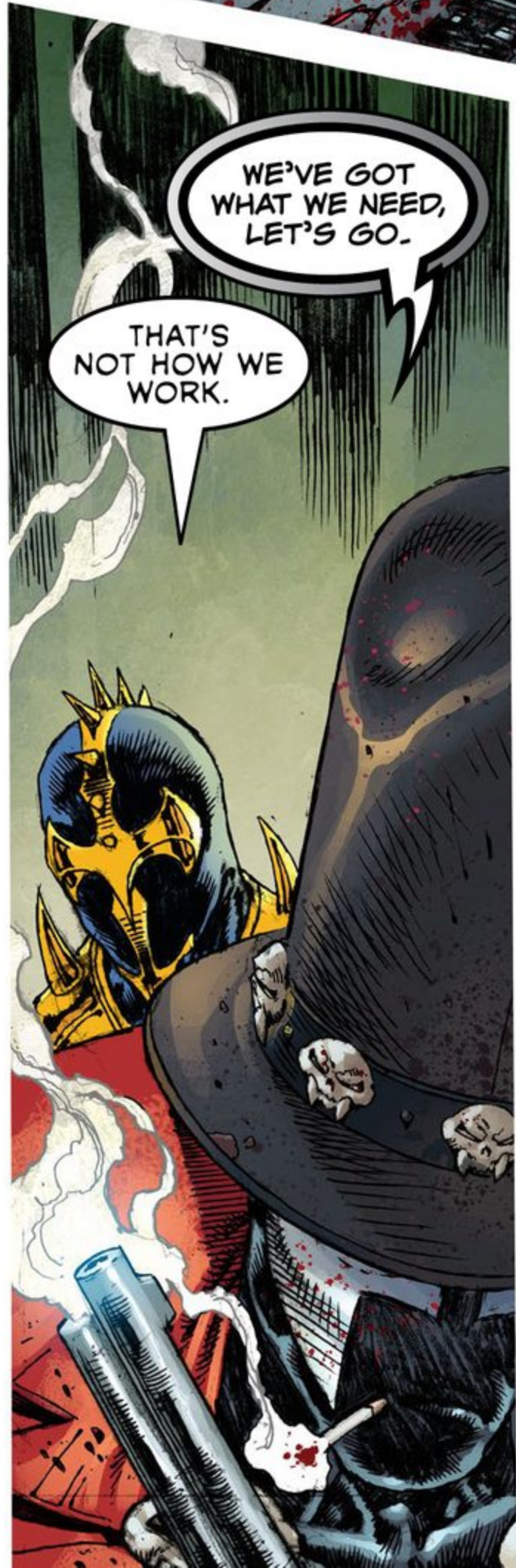




THIS
BETTER BE
GOOD.

THE BLACK
ONE, THAT LOOKS LIKE
YOU, HE IS ONE KLUCK SOUTH
AT GENERAL KRUSCHEV'S BASE.
IT'S WHERE HE CREATED ALL
OF US. HE'S TRYING TO
BOND WITH IT.

THANKS.
THAT'S ALL I
NEEDED.



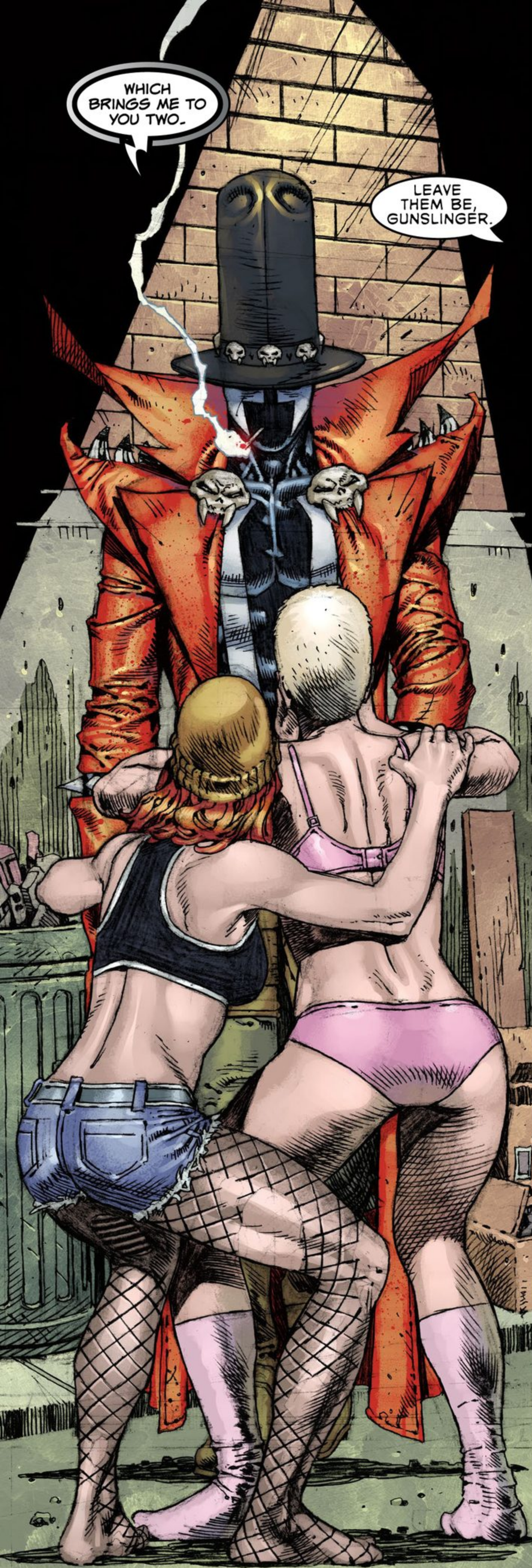
WE'VE GOT
WHAT WE NEED,
LET'S GO.

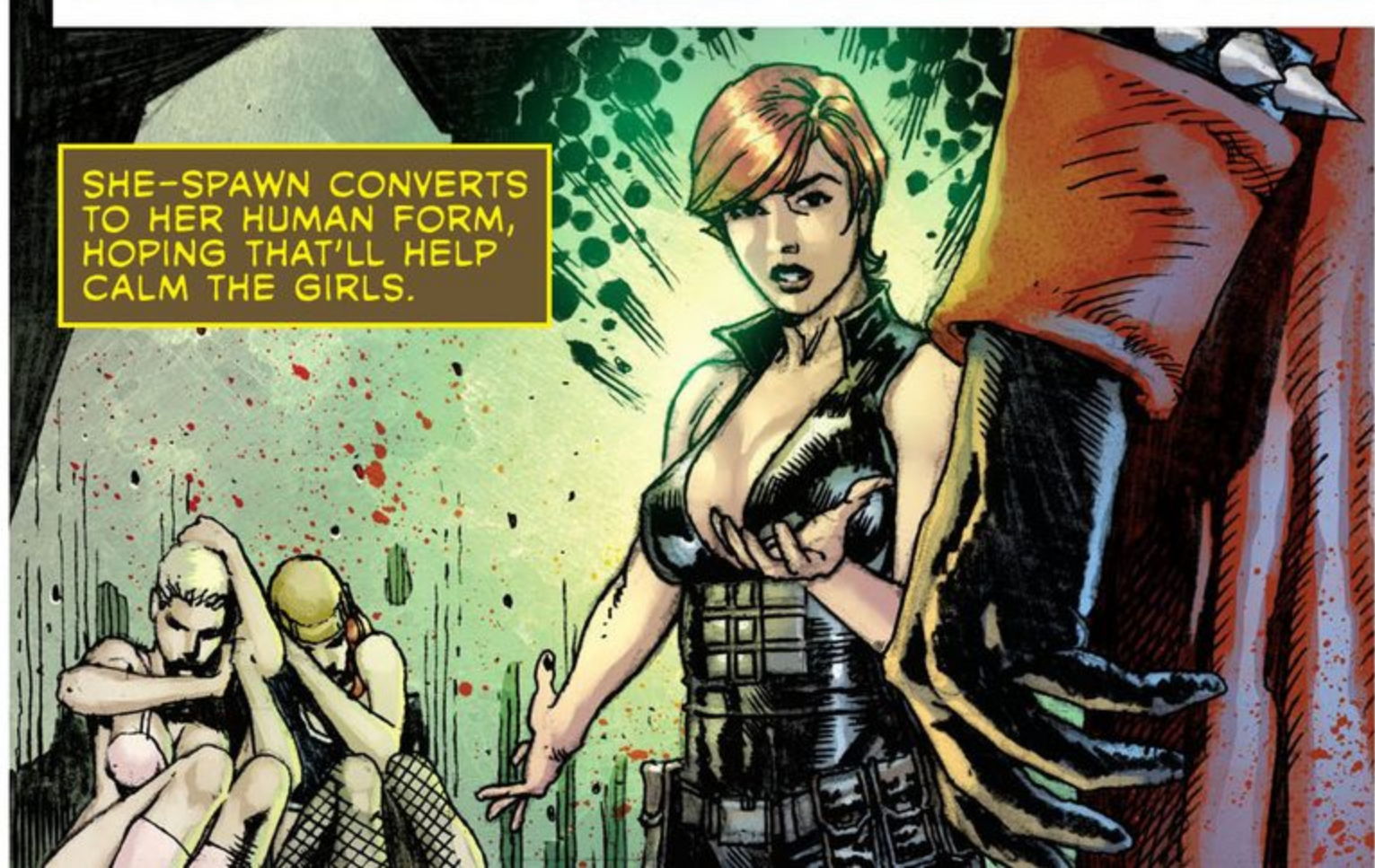
THAT'S
NOT HOW WE
WORK.



OH
YAH? WELL,
GET USED
TO IT.

HERE'S
A PISTOL,
MEDIEVAL, YOU'RE
GOING TO NEED
MORE THAN
ARMOR.





LATER.

THEY FOUND SHELTER, MOSTLY FOR THE COMFORT OF THEIR TWO FEMALE GUESTS. AS THEY ALL BEGIN TO SETTLE IN, JESSICA BEGINS TO LAY OUT HER STRATEGY.

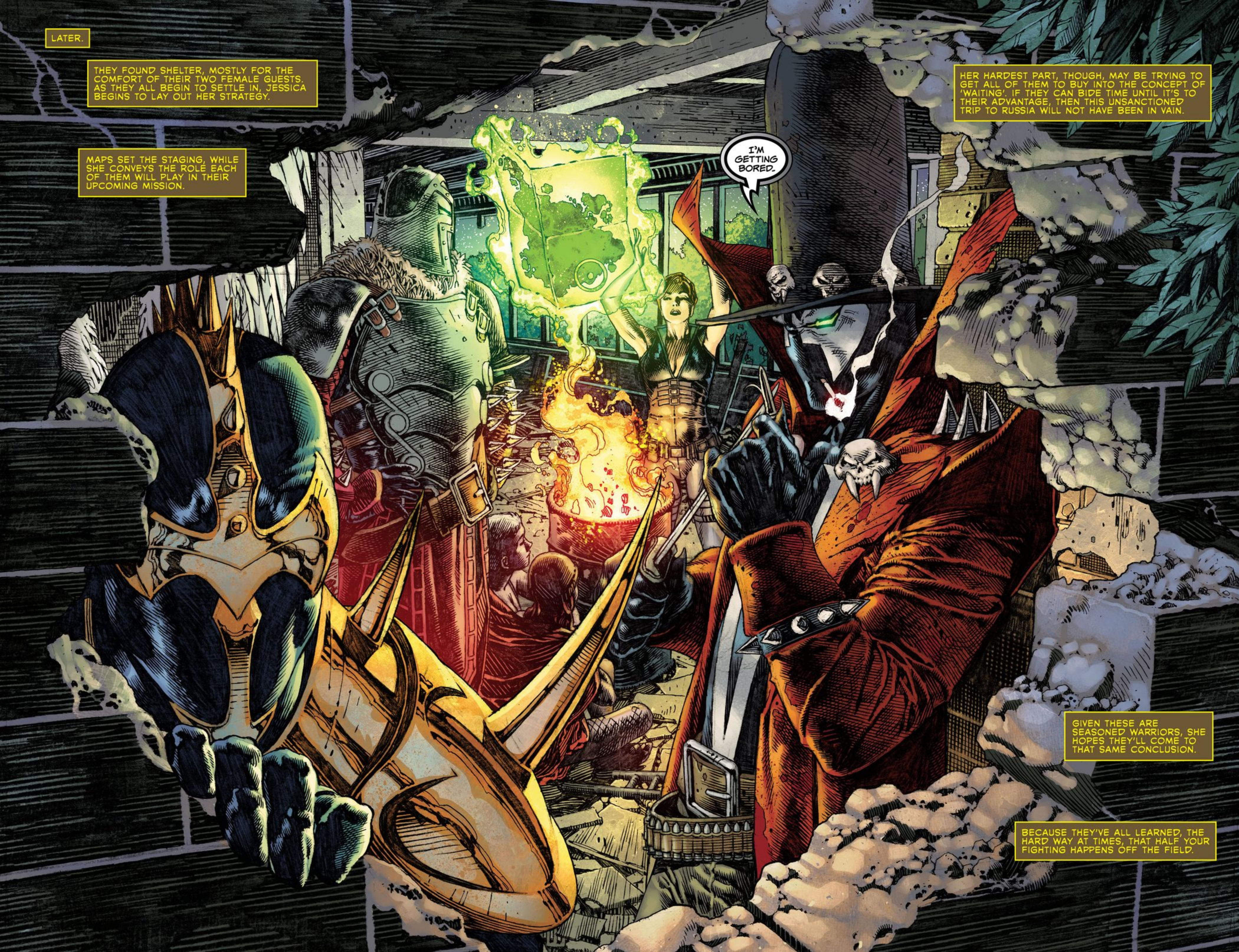
MAPS SET THE STAGING, WHILE SHE CONVEYS THE ROLE EACH OF THEM WILL PLAY IN THEIR UPCOMING MISSION.

I'M GETTING BORED.

HER HARDEST PART, THOUGH, MAY BE TRYING TO GET ALL OF THEM TO BUY INTO THE CONCEPT OF 'WAITING'. IF THEY CAN BIDE TIME UNTIL IT'S TO THEIR ADVANTAGE, THEN THIS UNSANCTIONED TRIP TO RUSSIA WILL NOT HAVE BEEN IN VAIN.

GIVEN THESE ARE SEASONED WARRIORS, SHE HOPES THEY'LL COME TO THAT SAME CONCLUSION.

BECAUSE THEY'VE ALL LEARNED, THE HARD WAY AT TIMES, THAT HALF YOUR FIGHTING HAPPENS OFF THE FIELD.





AND OUR ENEMIES MUST KNOW WE'RE COMING AFTER THEM, WHY'RE WE WAITING, WHY GIVE'EM TIME TO FORTIFY?

BECAUSE, DESPITE YOUR IMPATIENCE, THIS WILL BE A TWO-PRONGED ASSAULT. HAVING A MAJORITY IN ONE PLACE MEANS THEY'LL BE UNBALANCED.



FOR NOW, DON'T JEOPARDIZE WHAT THE REST OF US ARE AFTER.



DON'T HURT US.

THAT'S NOT MY GOAL. I WANT TO PROTECT YOU, ALLOW ME TO DO THAT, PLEASE.

IF YOU TOUCH MY HAND...



I WILL SEE WHAT YOU HAVE SEEN.

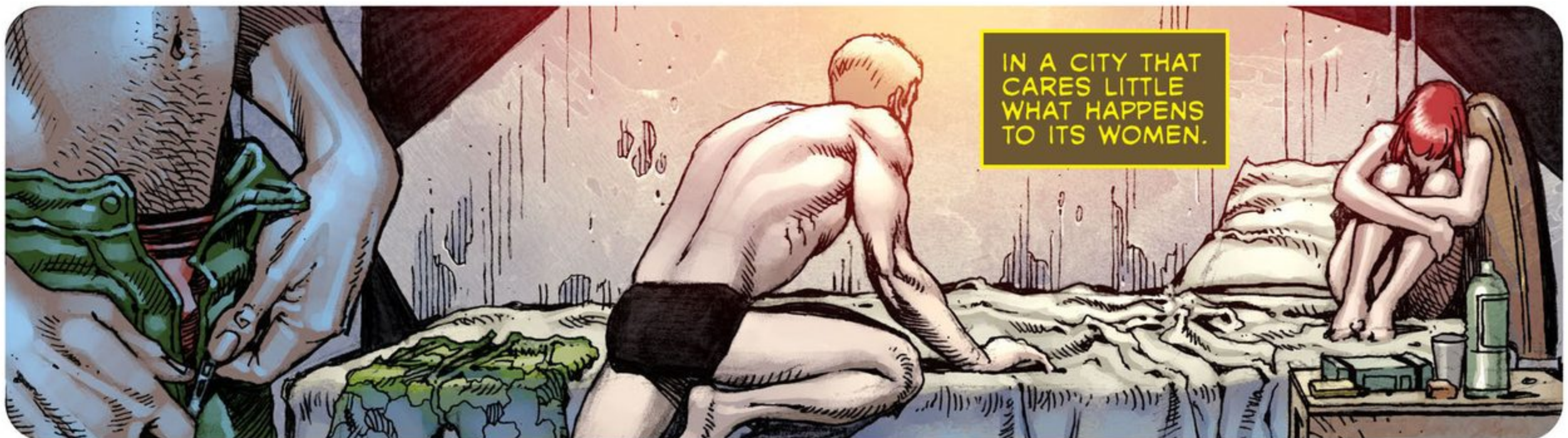


AND LIKE THAT THE HELL KNIGHT RIDES THROUGH THE GIRL'S MIND.

SHE'S ALONE.



AN ORPHAN.



IN A CITY THAT CARES LITTLE WHAT HAPPENS TO ITS WOMEN.



SO, THOSE LIKE HER BAND TOGETHER.



LIKE A LARGE PUNK BAND.



FIGHTING FOR A SLIVER OF DECENCY.





BUT EVENTUALLY,
A SPARK NEEDS TO
IGNITE THE FIRE!

YOU
THINK ANYONE
CARES ABOUT
YOU?



THEY DON'T!
I CAN KILL YOU HERE
IN BROAD DAYLIGHT AND
NO ONE WILL SPEAK OF
IT. THAT'S WHAT TRUE
POWER IS.



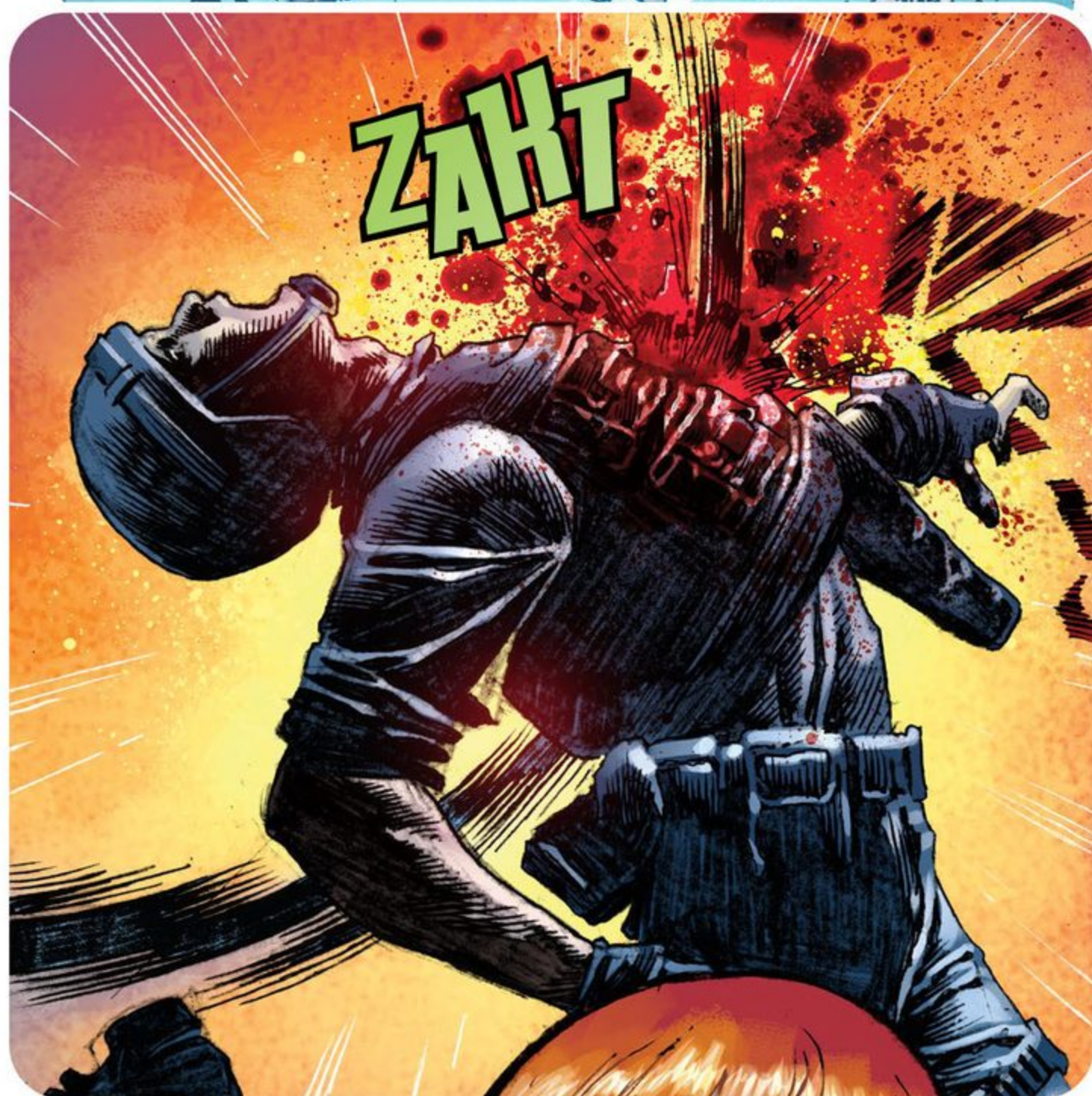
BUT SOMETIMES
THE SPARK DOESN'T
START A FIRE...



...IT IGNITES
AN INFERNO.



WHILE THINGS BURN, SHE
HIDES WITH THE OTHER
"UNDESIRABLES."





THAT'S WHEN SHE SAW
IT--A CREATURE, AN
ANIMAL, IN HUMAN FORM.
THE ONE THEY CALLED
PLAGUE SPAWN..!

SHE SAW HIM AND
WHERE THEY HAD TRIED
TO IMPRISON HIM.

WHAT NONE OF THEM KNEW,
WAS THAT THIS THING WAS
THE **ORIGINAL** PROTOTYPE
FOR HELL'S SPAWN UNIFORM.
BUT IT HAD TOO MANY
'**DEFECTS**'. IT WAS
SUPPOSED TO BE DESTROYED.
INSTEAD IT **SURVIVED!**



MEDIEVAL'S AND ODESSA'S MIND MELD SUDDENLY ENDS

CAN YOU SHOW ME WHERE YOU SAW THE CREATURE?

I THINK SO.



HEY!... DID YOU HERE THAT?



SOMETHING'S OUTSIDE.



REDEEMER, I NEED YOU TO SCOUT.



UNFORTUNATELY, WHAT
THE ARMORED HERO SEES
IS SOMETHING FAR WORSE
THAN ANYTHING THEY
HAD PREPARED FOR.

SHE-SPAWN,
IF YOU CAN HEAR
ME, MOVE THOSE
GIRLS, NOW!

OR EVERYONE'S
GOING TO GET
SLAUGHTERED.

THAT MAY
ALREADY BE
TOO LATE.



“Epilogue”

SPAWN'S HIDDEN
SANCTUARY.

WHEN DID
YOU DISCOVER
THIS?

ABOUT AN
HOUR AGO. WHAT
DO YOU WANT TO
DO ABOUT IT?

NOTHING.
FOR NOW.

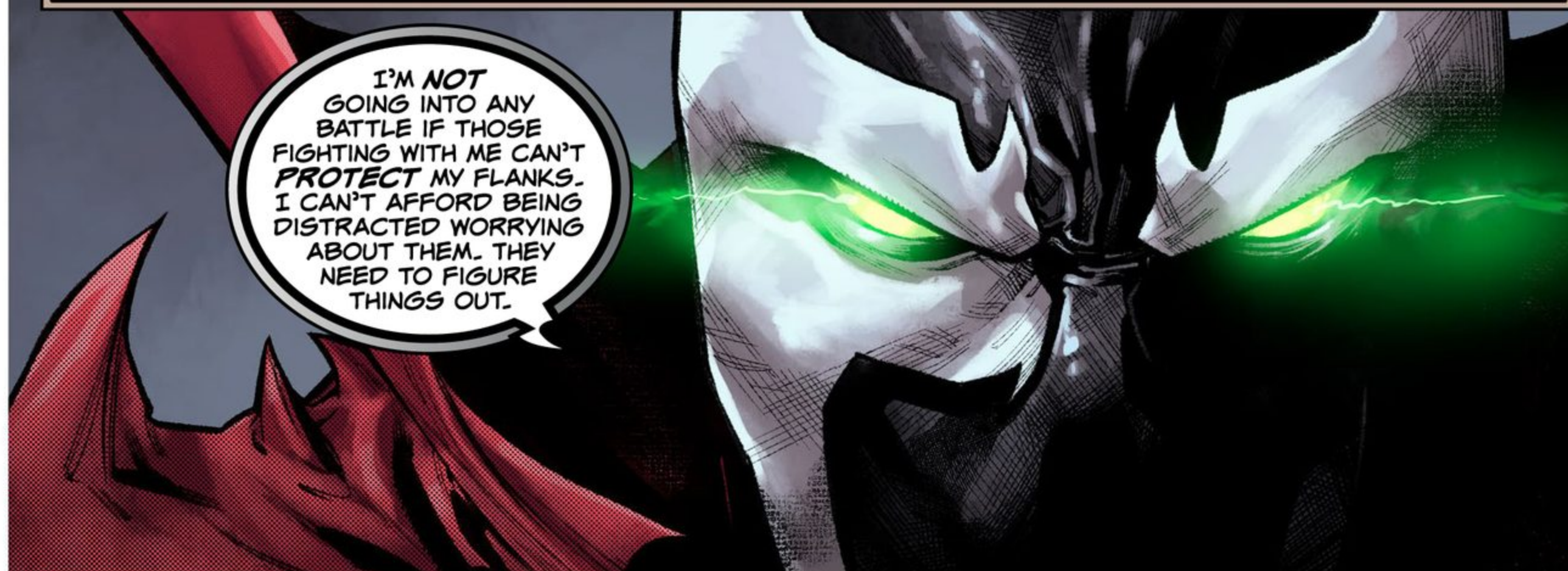
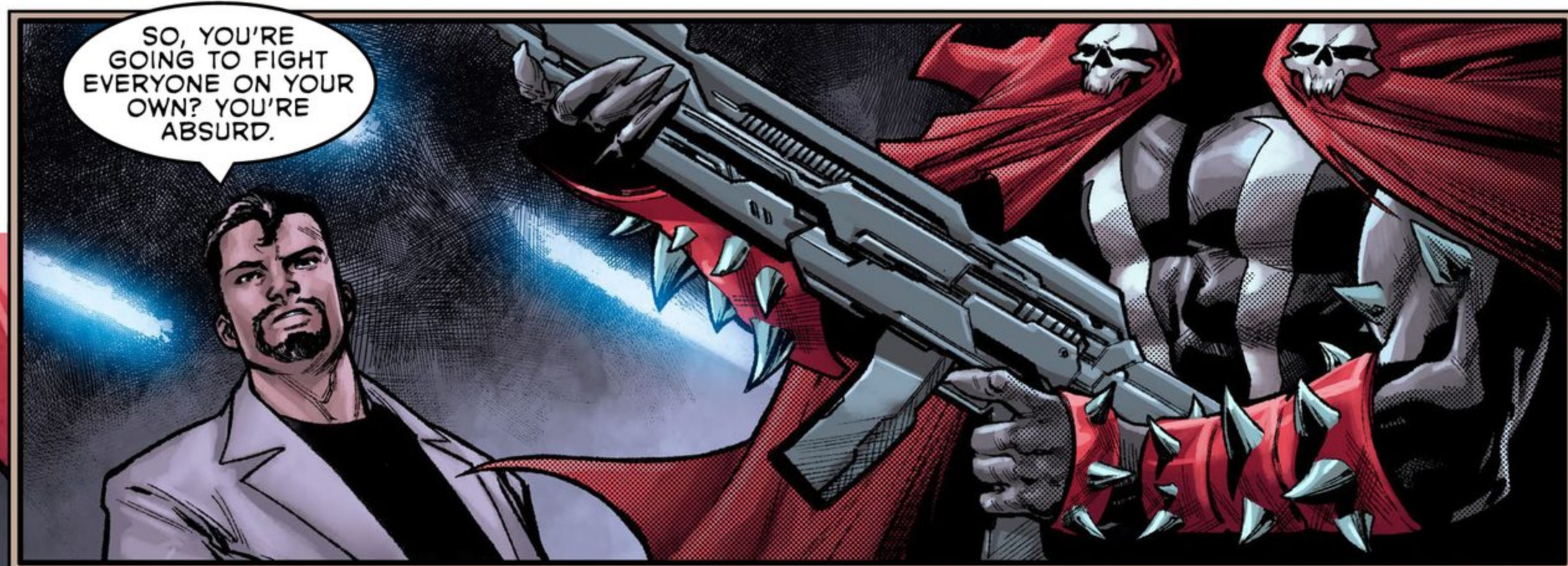
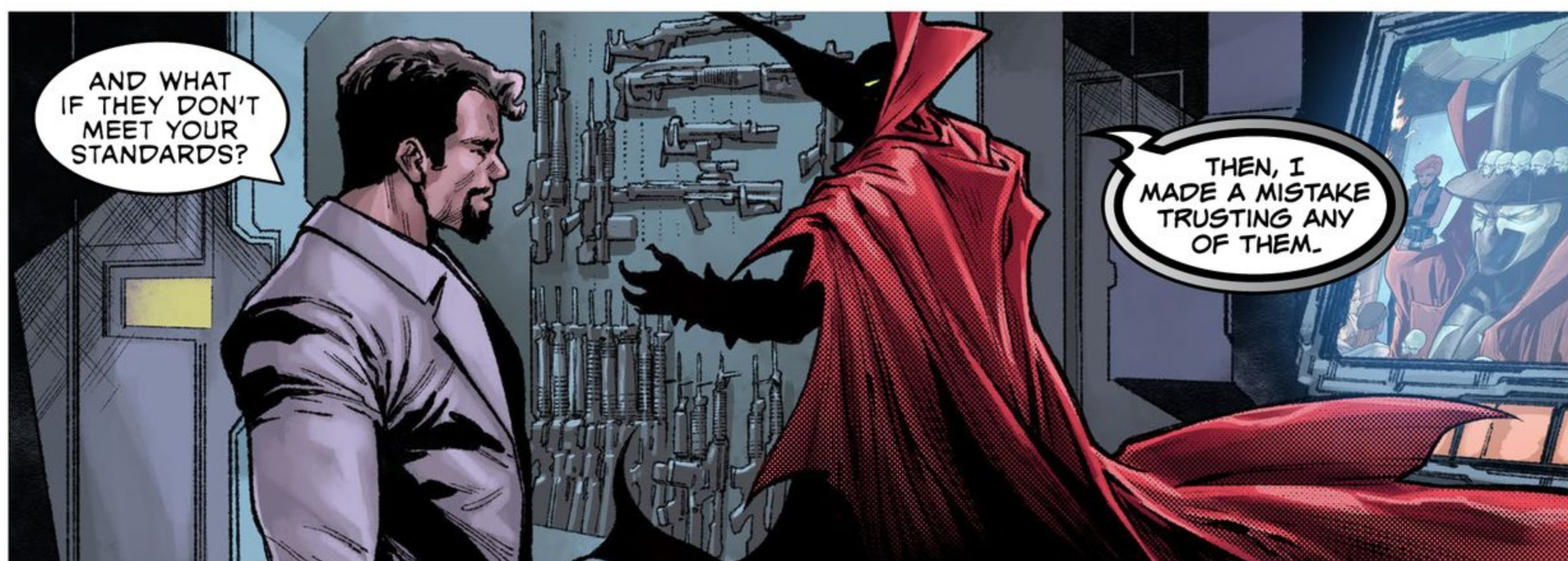
SO,
YOU'RE GOING
TO LET THEM
FAIL?

I'M GOING
TO TEST THEM.
THEY MADE THIS
MESS, IT'S THEIR
JOB TO CLEAN
IT UP.

TO WHAT
END?

TO SEE IF
THEY'RE CAPABLE
OR JUST RECKLESS. I
DON'T NEED ROGUE
SOLDIERS.

YEAH? WELL,
I REMEMBER
OUR COMMANDING
OFFICERS WOULD'VE
SAID THE SAME
THING ABOUT
US.



SPAWNING GROUND

PRESENTS:

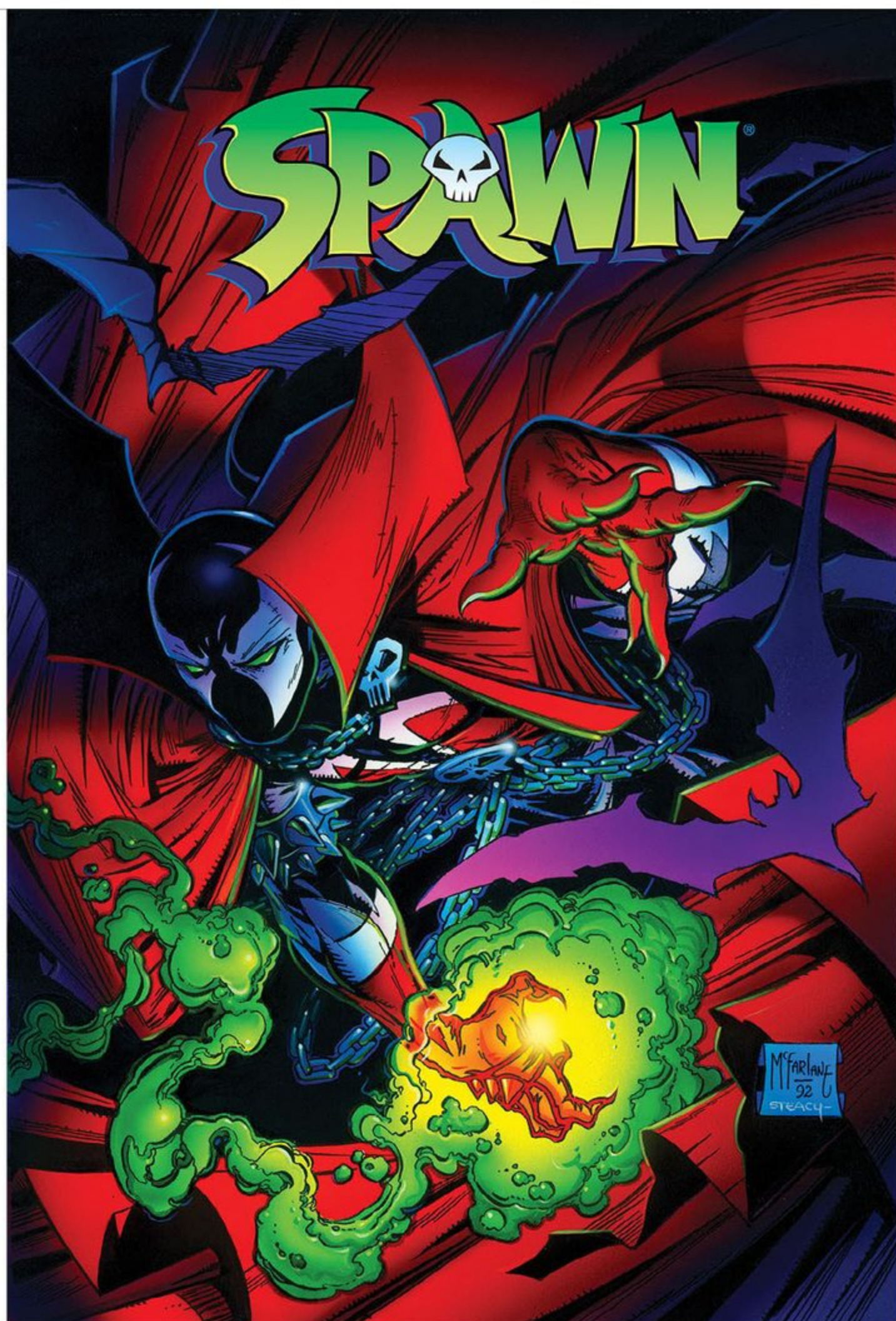
THE BREAKDOWN



Todd McFarlane 
@Todd_McFarlane



How it started



9:36 AM · Jan 12, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

18.2K Retweets 3.6K Quote Tweets 1.7M Likes

#COVERSPAWN

A lot has changed in the nearly 30 years since Spawn #1 hit the shelves. It used to be that each book had only one cover--even if it was a first issue! Nowadays, it seems like every new book launch is accompanied by enough cover variants that they could fill a book on their own. And with **FOUR(!)** new number 1's this year, that adds up to a dizzying number of incredible covers. With so much amazing artwork coming out, it's hard to choose a favorite; tell us which covers you loved this year with the hashtag #CoverSpawn!



Todd McFarlane 
@Todd_McFarlane



How it's going



9:38 AM · Jan 12, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

20.2K Retweets 4.5K Quote Tweets 2.1M Likes



Do you have a question or comment about Spawn? If so, e-mail it to us at:
spawningground@mcfarlane.com

THE SCORCHED[®] 2



FEBRUARY 2022



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